

WISHA REGIONAL DIRECTIVE

WISHA Services

Department of Labor and Industries

22.20

Rental Cranes and Maritime Crane Certification Date: February 24, 2005

I. Background

WAC 296-56-60093 requires certification of cranes and other material handling devices used by employers subject to Chapter 296-56 WAC (Longshore, Stevedore, and Related Waterfront Operations). WAC 296-304-200 includes a similar requirement regarding shipbuilding and certain related activities.

Because some rental operations provide cranes to employers covered by these maritime standards *and* to employers engaged in other operations such as logging, construction and general industry, the question of whether it is appropriate to certify such rental cranes has been raised.

II. Scope and Application

This WISHA Regional Directive (WRD) applies to all WISHA enforcement and consultation activities (as well as to maritime crane certifiers) involved in the certification of cranes and derricks under the requirements of Chapter 296-56 and 296-304 WAC. It replaces and rescinds WISHA Interim Operations Memorandum 98-1-K.

III. Interpretive Guidance

- 1. Which crane or derrick inspection worksheets from an accredited crane certifier will WISHA staff process?*

The maritime certification staff will process only those crane inspection worksheets for cranes that have been specifically (and appropriately) designated as "maritime." Some examples of cranes for which worksheets will not be accepted include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Cranes not used by employers subject to Chapter 296-56 WAC or Chapter 296-304 WAC (cranes used in environments other than a "marine terminal" or a "shipyard").
- Cranes that are not being used within WISHA jurisdiction.
- Mobile personnel hoists.
- Rental company fleet cranes.

Requests for specific, special circumstance reviews of equipment (including rental equipment) will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

2. *Can a rental company have their cranes certified and then rent their cranes as being “maritime certified” to an employer?*

Because crane certification is specific to the particular nature of an employer's use of the crane, crane rental companies will *not* be issued maritime certificates for cranes in their rental fleet outside the context of a specific maritime use. A "maritime employer" who rents a crane is responsible for ensuring compliance with the crane certification requirements of the applicable standard and must not simply rely upon a previous certification.

Approved: _____
Mel James, Acting Senior Program Manager
WISHA Policy & Technical Services

For further information about this or other WISHA Regional Directives, you may contact WISHA Policy & Technical Services at PO Box 44648, Olympia WA 98504-4648 or by telephone at (360) 902-5503. You also may review policy information on the WISHA Website (<http://www.lni.wa.gov/Safety/>).